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Signature	<i>Dave Glisson</i>	Date	June 30, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	Attorney Docket	SHIM-007
	First Named Inventor	Hideo Ago et al.
	Application Number	Unassigned
	Filing Date	Even Date Herewith
	Group Art Unit	Unassigned
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
	Title	HCV Polymerase Suitable for Crystal Structure Analysis and Method for Using the Enzyme

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment to the patent application identified above. Prior to examination of the subject application, please enter the following amendments to the specification and claims:

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, beneath the Title, add:

~~This~~ This application claims priority to Japanese Application No. 11-188630, filed July 2, 1999 and Japanese Application No. 11-192488, filed July 7, 1999, filed under 35 U.S.C. § 119.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **cancel** claims 1-18 and **add** new claims 19-36.

19. (New) A polypeptide, characterized by

(a) derived from HCV polymerase NS5B having an HCV polymerase activity;

(b) consisting of an amino acid sequence X-Y;

wherein X comprises a consecutive amino acid sequence which is a portion of the NS5B, an N-terminal amino acid of X is the amino acid residue 1 (Ser) of the NS5B, and a C-terminal amino acid of X is an amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 531 (Lys) to 570 (Arg) of the NS5B;

wherein one or more amino acids in the amino acid sequence of X may be modified, and methionine residues in the amino acid sequence of X may be replaced by selenomethionine residues;